



Maryland Agriculture Data



Weekly Crop and Weather Report

MD-CW3003

October 27, 2003

Corn Harvest Nears Completion

Fall-like temperatures and minimal precipitation last week allowed farmers to move the corn harvest past the three-quarters point and increase their harvest of soybeans. There were 6.4 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending October 26, 2003. Air temperatures were in the 60's during the day and the 30's at night. **Corn** is 78 percent harvested, 12 percent below last year and 4 percent below the five-year average. As harvest nears completion, reports continue to indicate yields are better than normal.

Soybeans are 28 percent harvested, 3 percent below last year and 15 percent below the five-year average. Although there are blank spots in some fields with no soybean plants, overall yields are expected to be better than last year. **Sorghum** harvest is almost complete with 76 percent harvested, 14 percent above last year and the five-year average. Fourth cutting of **other hay** is 88 percent harvested and **alfalfa hay** is 75 percent harvested. **Hay supplies** are rated 57 percent adequate, 27 percent short and 16 percent very short.

Planting of small grains is progressing at a rapid pace. **Barley** is over 80 percent planted, compared with 50 percent last week. **Wheat** is 60 percent planted, compared with 32 percent last week. Both crops are in good to excellent condition.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	92	78	89	91
Corn, for grain	78	69	90	82
Sorghum	76	59	62	62
Soybeans	28	14	31	43
Crop Progress:				
Soybeans, dropping leaves	80	68	94	95
Tobacco, stripped	18	12	19	18
Small Grains Planted:				
Barley	83	50	92	86
Wheat	60	32	55	51
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting	75	69	90	92
Alfalfa Hay 5 th Cutting	10	8	31	46
Other Hay 4 th Cutting	88	86	79	88

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley	3	8	24	45	20
Wheat	2	1	21	61	15
Pasture	3	6	20	56	15

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	7	85	8
Topsoil (2002)	2	11	82	5
Subsoil Moisture	-	3	87	10
Subsoil (2002)	15	48	35	2

Holly Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Norman Bennett
State Statistician

Published by

The Maryland Agriculture Statistics Service

50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(410) 841-5740

Fax (410) 841-5755

a cooperative service of

The Maryland Department of Agriculture, the National Agricultural Statistics Service
and the University of Maryland Extension System